

1948

PROPERTY OF
PRINCETON UNIVERSITY
RECEIVED APR 17 1948

The American Observer

A free, virtuous, and enlightened people must know well the great principles and causes on which their happiness depends.—James Monroe

VOLUME XVII, NUMBER 29 WASHINGTON, D. C. APRIL 19, 1948

Spain's Place In Aid Program

That Country Barred from Marshall Plan, but Door Not Permanently Closed

SPAIN'S recent history has been anything but peaceful and serene. Even though that country did not participate in World War II, its people have known little but trouble and hardship during the last 12 years.

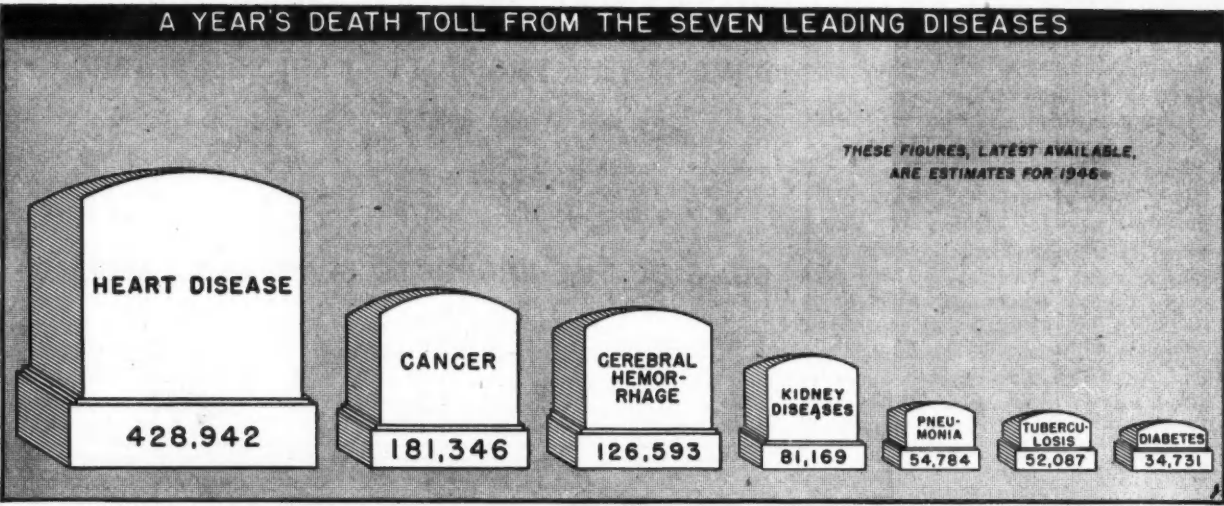
In 1936, the tragic civil war, which was not to end until some three years later, broke out. General Francisco Franco and his followers, both military and civilian, revolted against the government then in power. They contended that it was "communist-led." Their opponents replied that Franco was a "fascist," seeking to overthrow a "democratic" government by force.

Large numbers of Spanish people were killed during the struggle, and much of the country was laid waste. General Franco and his supporters gained absolute control of the government. They imprisoned many thousands of their opponents, and the bitter feeling between the two groups was prolonged and intensified.

During World War II, the Franco government adopted an official policy of neutrality. Both sides in the conflict competed for outright Spanish support, but Franco felt it best to stay out of the "fighting war," and was fortunate enough to be able to do so.

After the world struggle ended, Franco had few friends. Only neighboring Portugal and a few Spanish-speaking Latin American countries would have much to do with Spain.

(Continued on page 2)



Cancer Control Month Observed

Fight Against This Disease Focuses Attention on Work That Could Be Done in Field of Health if More Money Were Available for Research

SINCE Congress and President Truman have proclaimed April as Cancer Control Month, it is an appropriate time to take stock of the nation's campaign against cancer and other major diseases. Are we continuing to make advances in prolonging life and combating disease? Is the public giving sufficient financial support to individuals and institutions that are seeking to safeguard the health of the American people?

The answer to the first question is "yes." While certain diseases are taking more lives than they formerly did, progress continues to be made in increasing the life expectancy of the American people as a whole. The average person in this country today may expect to live to the age of 66 as compared to less than 60 in 1930.

It is practically certain that even more rapid strides could be made in this direction if medical people and institutions had more funds at their disposal. There is a limit, of course, to how much money the people of a nation can set aside for raising their health standards. Nevertheless, when American spending for medical purposes is compared with spending for other less important items, it is obvious that we in this country can afford to increase our investment in the field of health.

Some diseases, such as infantile paralysis, have caught the public's sympathy more than others. Large sums of money are being spent to support research on the cause and cure of polio. This is fortunate, because even though this disease does not take

a comparatively high death toll, it is a painful and crippling illness, and one which strikes a large number of children and young adults.

It is unfortunate, however, that campaigns against more prevalent and deadly illnesses have not been so well supported. The Public Affairs Committee, publishers of pamphlets, gives this example:

In 1945, public money contributed to the American Heart Association for research "totaled seven cents annually for each American who dies of heart disease. This contrasted with \$13,000 for each infantile paralysis death, \$292 for each death from tuberculosis, and \$22 for each cancer death."

The Committee goes on to explain that funds obtained and used by a number of medical colleges raised the amount spent on heart research to an average higher than the seven cents mentioned above. Considerably more money, however, is needed for study of this top-ranking killer, as well as for cancer and many other diseases. Spastic paralysis, for example, leaves its victims in a pitiful condition, and much more money than is now available must be raised to combat this disease effectively.

The federal government is contributing fairly substantial sums for medical research purposes. Last year, Congress gave 14 million dollars to the National Cancer Institute, and public health institutions all over the country are cooperating with private medical people in the war against disease.

Each individual can help out in this campaign by contributing as much as possible to groups which are seeking funds for combating diseases of all kinds. In addition, everyone should have physical check-ups frequently, in order to give medical science a chance to do its work. Such examinations may disclose any serious ailments before they reach a dangerous stage.

(Concluded on page 6)

"I Just Light My Candle"

By Walter E. Myer



Walter E. Myer

The Magazine Digest publishes this little story, credited to Eddie Cantor:

"Recently, a young doctor was embarking on a ship for China. Despite the pleas of his friends, he insisted on making the voyage. 'Look,' they said, 'You are absolutely helpless against the suffering of that great nation. You disappear in that vast mass of humanity. What can you do about their epidemics? ... What can you accomplish against war, famine, flood?'

"As he stepped up the gangplank the young man gave his answer: 'When it is dark about me I do not curse at the darkness. I just light my candle.'

"Most of us, I am afraid, are not cast in the heroic mold that the young doctor was. We are more like his friends. When the outlook is dark, when war threatens and it seems that everything we hold dear is endangered, we are likely

to say, 'What can I do about it? What difference does it make how much I read or talk about the problems of the world? Nothing that I can do will change the course of events.'

When you talk that way you are adopting a fatalistic attitude. You are assuming that things happen the way they are fated to happen, regardless of what we do about them.

This is an unfortunate position for one to take, for the course of affairs can be changed. The individual may feel that he is helpless—that he alone can do nothing for his country or the world. Perhaps he cannot if he acts alone. But in a democracy we make progress by working together. The individual may "light his candle"; he may do his part, perform his duty as he sees it, and if enough people follow that course, something will be accomplished.

Here is the way it works: You read a book or take part in a discussion. You have strong convictions about something that should be done. You talk to

other people about it, expressing your views as forcefully as possible.

Some of the people with whom you talk are impressed. They go away and repeat what you have said. They may not give you credit for it. They may even think that they thought of the idea themselves. But that makes no difference. The important thing is that a number of people discuss the question you talked about.

After a while this goes on until we can say that *public opinion* has been changed. And the government is influenced by public opinion. Our lawmakers are well informed about what people are saying. They hear the voice of the public when they are considering important questions. That is the way the people rule.

The good American will, then, have faith that his opinions will count; that he can help to influence events—that if he lights his candle in dark days the light will help lead others out of darkness.

SPAIN

(Continued from page 1)

The Russian leaders, of course, hated Franco because of his "fight against communism." The majority of people in the western nations felt that he had sympathized with, and secretly helped, the fascist countries in the war, and that he was a "fascist dictator" himself.

When the United Nations was organized, Spain was not permitted to be a member. The major powers had very little to do with the Spanish government, and there was quite a movement in favor of having the UN take action to restore "democracy" in Spain. Relations between France and Spain were so strained that the border between the two countries was closed.

As the fear of Russia has increased, however, many people in the western nations who formerly opposed any co-operation with Spain so long as Franco remained in power, have changed their minds. For example, the French-Spanish border has been reopened, and these two nations are now trading and cooperating on friendly terms.

The opinion of many Americans toward Spain also seems to have changed. In the closing days of debate in Congress on the European Recovery Plan, an attempt was made to include Spain in this economic program. Even though the effort failed, it received a large measure of support. The lawmakers and other citizens who opposed the idea of Spanish participation argued as follows:

"The European Recovery Program is intended mainly to help the nations which suffered devastation during the war. On this ground, Spain cannot qualify to receive American aid. That country did not take part in the war, but sat safely on the sidelines and made big profits by selling its products to both sides.

Another Claim

"But even worse is the fact that Spain was not truly neutral during the war. General Franco was friendly to both Hitler and Mussolini and publicly expressed the hope that they would emerge victorious.

"Franco was friendly to Hitler and Mussolini because they helped him become dictator of Spain in 1939. They supplied him with guns, ammunition, and trained soldiers during the Spanish civil war.

"For the past 9 years Franco has ruled Spain with an iron hand. He has stamped out all opposition to his one-man, one-party rule. Anyone in Spain who opposes him or seeks to bring about needed reforms is immediately branded a 'Communist' and dealt with ruthlessly.

"Franco has not worked for the welfare of all the people but only for the benefit of a small, privileged class. As a result, we see that fascism, which was defeated in Germany and Italy, still lives on in Spain. We should do everything possible to destroy it rather than to encourage it.

"If we should help Spain at this time, the Communists, who are trying to block the European Recovery Program, would greatly benefit. They could then say that America is not really interested in promoting democracy, but is willing to work with fascist governments whenever their help is useful. If we accept Franco, millions of Europeans who have thought we

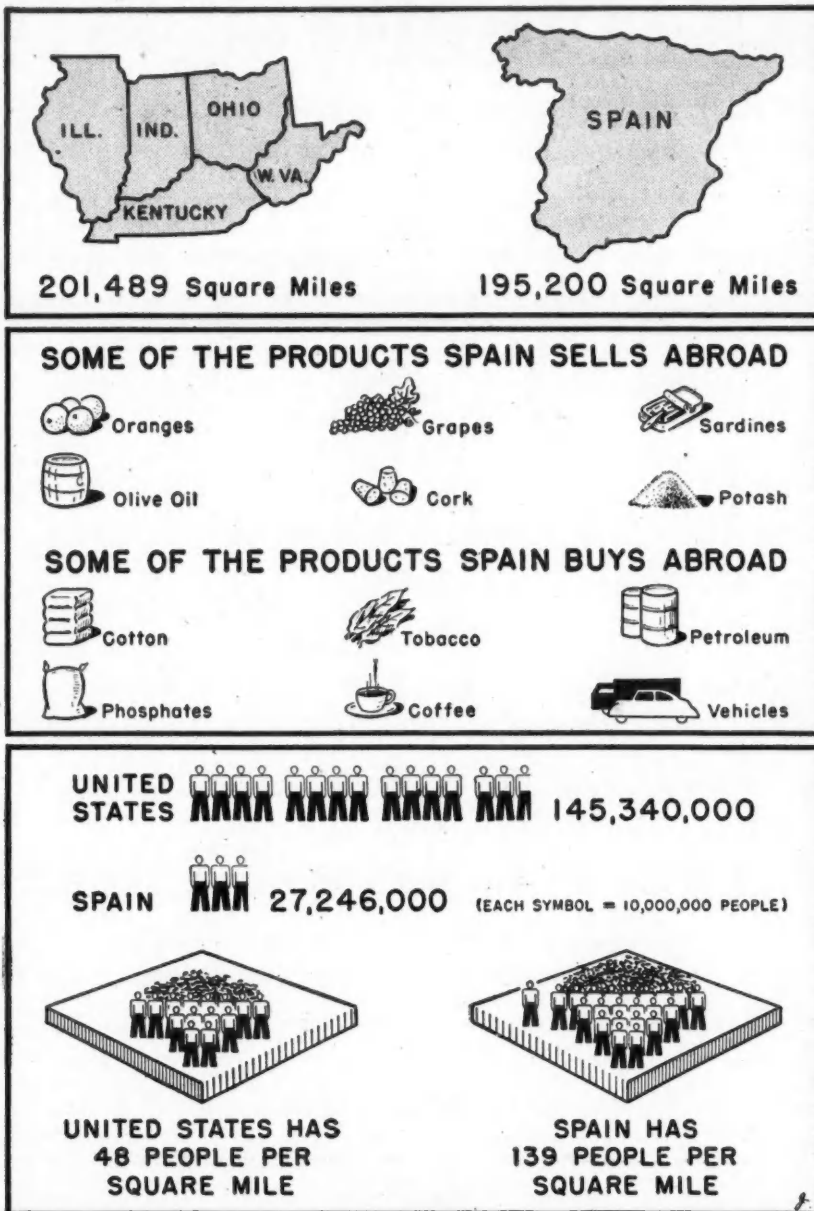


CHART AND MAP FOR AMERICAN OBSERVER BY JOHNSON

were champions of freedom will lose heart and will cease to be our friends."

Those Americans who spoke in favor of allowing Spain to share in the American aid being given to Western Europe took this position:

"Spain has much to contribute toward European recovery. If we give her a helping hand, she will be able to supply large quantities of much-needed food directly to her neighbors in Europe, thus cutting down on the amount needed from the United States. With more fertilizer and farm machinery, Spanish farmers could raise enough

grain and fruit to feed their own people and have a surplus left over to ship to France, Italy, Britain, and other needy countries.

"Everyone knows that one of the main purposes of the European Recovery Program is to stop the onward sweep of communism. In achieving this purpose, Spain can be of great help to us, for she is one of the most strongly anti-communist nations in the world. General Franco has been in the forefront of the fight against communism for years.

"If we ever have a war with Russia

we will find Spain a valuable ally. Look at the map of Europe and see Spain's strategic location! And remember that Spain has an army of nearly half a million men as well as large supplies of tungsten (used for making munitions) and other important products.

"It is true that General Franco sometimes uses forceful methods in dealing with his political opponents. But it is not our business to tell the Spanish people what kind of government they should have. Franco's regime is no more dictatorial than the governments of certain other countries with which we have friendly relations. Furthermore, American officials have repeatedly stated their willingness to cooperate with the dictatorial Soviet government if it ever stops its aggressive policies. Why shouldn't we, therefore, be willing to work with Spain?

"Although Spain did not fight on our side during the war, neither did Turkey, Portugal, Sweden, or Eire, and they are all receiving aid from the United States. Even Italy, which fought against us, is being helped. Moreover, at the outbreak of World War II, Spain was so exhausted after three years of civil war that she could not have been expected to help fight the Germans and Italians."

House Vote

At the end of this debate in the House of Representatives, a majority of the members voted in favor of including Spain among the nations to receive American help. But the majority in the Senate, as well as President Truman, opposed this move. Hence, Spain was removed from the list when the bill came up for final passage.

The door has not been completely closed against Spain's participation, however. As the bill was finally passed, it provides that the 16 nations which are included may at any time in the future invite the Spanish people to join them.

Meanwhile, Spain continues her struggle for existence. It is true that she made big profits from the sale of tungsten, copper, and other goods to the warring nations. But most of the money thus obtained was required to repair the tremendous damage caused by the Spanish civil war, which ended in 1939. And with the surrender of Germany in 1945, Spain's flourishing trade in raw materials needed for war came to an end.

At the close of the war, Spain also suffered a disastrous drought which ruined her crops. Nearly two-thirds of the grain crop in 1945 was lost for lack of sufficient rainfall. As a result, food rations for the average family had to be reduced to near-starvation levels and huge quantities of grain had to be imported from Argentina.

The shortage of water in the rivers also forced many hydroelectric plants to close entirely. These water-driven plants are Spain's principal source of power, and their closing cut down on the amount of electricity available to turn the wheels of industry. During the year 1945, factory production in Spain dropped 25 per cent, and large numbers of workers were unemployed.

In spite of these difficulties, Spain is striving to make full use of her natural resources. She possesses rich copper mines, high-grade iron ore deposits, and valuable supplies of tungsten. In the past, lack of coal has

(Concluded on page 3)

slowed down the development of mines and factories, but large hydroelectric plants now produce a considerable amount of the much-needed electric power.

On the whole, Spain lags far behind other western European countries in industrial progress. It is primarily a farming and stock-raising country, and not a "nation of workshops" such as Britain is. The majority of Spanish people are engaged in some form of agricultural work.

Spain's warm coastal regions produce large quantities of oranges, lemons, grapes, and olives. The country is also a large producer of wheat, corn, barley, and rice. Herds of cattle and sheep graze on the grassy plains of the interior.

Production of food crops in Spain is not as large as it should be, however, because farming methods are old-fashioned and inefficient. There is a great need for more modern farm machinery, and for fertilizer to enrich the soil. Spanish farmers need to practice up-to-date methods of cultivation, and use modern tools, if the country is ever to produce greater quantities of food.

Help Needed

Spain can make rapid progress in developing her mines and factories and farms only if she receives help from other countries. She looks for such help either from the United States (through ERP) or the Latin American countries with which she is on friendly terms.

Since Spain is not now permitted to share in the American aid to Europe, her government has turned to Argentina for help. It has just received a \$425 million loan from Argentina to be used during the next four years to buy Argentine beef and grain. This loan will be of great assistance to Spain, but it will leave the country still facing many serious problems.

The Greyhound Bus Company is testing a new bus which, if it measures up to standards, will be put into service. Called the "Highway Traveler," it seats 50 passengers—13 more than last year's Greyhounds, and is built in double-deck fashion. Each seat has a radio beside it which can be heard by the passenger in that seat alone. Air-conditioned the year round, the bus will also have a lounge, snack bar, and washroom. The public is looking forward to the new bus.



SCENE in a city of Granada, a province of southern Spain

U. S. Military Needs Are Discussed

New York Times Writer Compares Our Strength with Russia's

In the fall of 1945, a committee of military and diplomatic experts began a study of American military power and foreign policy. They attempted to find answers for such questions as these:

How powerful is the United States in the world today? What can it do and what should it do? If war should occur, what would it be like? How does American strength compare with Russian, and what are the relations between these two countries likely to be?

The committee held 14 meetings, extended over a period of a year and a half. Then the chairman of the committee, Hanson W. Baldwin, military editor of the New York Times, wrote a book dealing with the problems which the committee had considered.

This book, "The Price of Power" (New York, Harper and Brothers, \$3.75), answers many questions of tremendous concern to all of us. The rest of this article consists of a summary of the facts and ideas presented in the book. Whether or not one agrees with all the "facts and conclusions" in this volume, everyone will find it worthy of serious consideration.

Atomic bombs and other weapons of mass destruction will revolutionize warfare, but at present there are limits to the possible use of such weapons. The United States, alone among the nations, has the atomic bomb, but the making of a bomb is a very complex and expensive process, and our stockpile of them is probably relatively small.

Because of this, we would be cautious, in case of war, about risking the loss of bombs and would sharply limit their use. An atomic bomb is terrifyingly destructive, but one of them cannot, as many believe, destroy an entire great city. A single bomb, dropped on New York City, might destroy one sixtieth of the city and damage two or three times that much of it.

Russia does not now have bombs and will not have very many for years. There is no danger of her catching up with us in the near future.

There are planes which might fly as far as from here to Russia and back (or from Russia to the United States and return) but there are not many

of them. They are extremely costly, and the chances of their getting back from such a long trip would not be good. It seems unlikely, therefore, that Russia could bomb America, at least in the early stages of a war, if the war should come soon.

In the years to come planes will fly faster than at present and at greater heights. There may be real "ocean hoppers" in 8 to 15 years. When that happens there will be no effective defense against bomb attacks. The best defense will be offense. If the enemy knows that, if attacked, we will retaliate immediately and overwhelmingly, he will think twice before attacking.

Most people seem to think that Russia's industries are more scattered than ours and that her factories are safer from air attack than are those of America. This is a mistake. Russia's factories are scattered over a wide territory, but there are far more separate plants in our country, which makes them hard to get at.

Factories must be built where there are railroads so that the products can be transported. Russia has few railroads, so there is a limit to the possible scattering of her factories.

Poison gases and disease germs will add to the horrors of war in the future. The best defense against them, as against atomic bombs, is ability to retaliate with destructive power.

The navies of the future will be transformed. Particularly effective will be a submarine which can travel for long periods under the water at high speed, and which has terrific fighting power.

There are several elements of great strength in Russia's position. Her population is greater than that of the United States, though this does not count for as much as it did formerly. Great industrial efficiency, rather than masses of human beings, is likely to win future wars.

Advantage in War

Russia also has a great land mass. She occupies an inner, or central, position. In the case of war, the fighting would be on the outer fringes of her territory, or of the nations she would control. This gives her an advantage.

A marked disadvantage to Russia comes from the fact that she does not have a highly skilled labor force capable of working effectively with machinery. Millions of her young men who might now be good mechanics were killed in the war, and millions of others are peasants who have not learned, and do not readily learn, to handle machines.

In this respect, Russia is weak where the United States is strong, for America has an immense army of highly skilled workmen.

"In industrial facilities and industrial output we have no peer; today there is not even a very close second.

"The United States produces half of the world's power, does some 40 per cent or more of the horse power hours of work performed in the world, and turns out 35 to 50 per cent of the world's industrial production. In heavy industries, ship building, plane and automotive construction, and munitions making, the war showed

the unrivalled economic strength of the United States."

In a war with Russia the tremendous advantage of the United States in industrial power would be decisive. Russia, after a very hard struggle, would be defeated. The Russian leaders know this, and for that reason, there is little likelihood of their starting a war with us within the next few years.

There is little prospect, however, that relations between the United States and Russia will become friendly. The tension and threat of war will remain, and we cannot for a



Hanson Baldwin

moment let down in our preparedness.

There is no chance that we can be absolutely prepared so as to be secure against any possible attack. No nation can be in such a fortunate position. We can, however, be relatively secure if we adopt wise measures. Among the policies we should maintain are these:

1. Form alliances with the nations whose help we will need in time of war. Build up the strength of the western democracies, as we are doing through the Marshall Plan.

Through alliances, build up a balance of power by which we would keep Russia, or any other nation, from becoming powerful enough to menace us. Of balance of power, Paul Scott Mowrer says:

"Balance of power . . . is the instinctive tendency of free nations to combine against that one or group among them that seems to be expanding so aggressively and exerting such domination as to endanger the liberties of all. The balance of power has eventually defeated every would-be world conqueror since Roman times."

2. Try, so far as possible, to live at peace with Russia, and all other nations. Try to strengthen the United Nations, so that that organization can solve as many as possible of the vexing international problems, but we should not go to extremes and get the idea that the United Nations can be a substitute for our own armed might. Such a development may occur sometime, but not soon.

3. Maintain a highly efficient intelligence service, so that we may know what Russia is planning to do, and so that we may have advance notice if she should ever decide to attack us.

4. Maintain very extensive scientific research, so that we may not be outdistanced in the production of the

(Concluded on page 7, col. 1)

The Story of the Week

Foreign Aid Chief

Paul Hoffman, who was recently chosen to head America's vast foreign aid program, is already hard at work directing the shipment of goods to Europe and China. For many years the president of Studebaker Corporation in South Bend, Indiana, Mr. Hoffman now has the tremendous task of managing the largest foreign aid program ever undertaken by any country in peacetime.

Most of the funds authorized in the 6-billion-dollar undertaking, which be-



PAUL G. HOFFMAN, president of the Studebaker Corporation, who is taking over his duties as director of the European Recovery Program.

came law early this month, will go to the 16 European nations cooperating in the Marshall Plan. As a part of the program, those countries are pledging themselves to take specific "self-help" measures.

A second phase of the program deals with assistance to China. That country will receive aid amounting to 463 million dollars. About 70 per cent of the sum is for the rebuilding of China. The remainder may be used for military purposes to aid the Chinese government in its civil war against the Communists.

A total of 275 million dollars is authorized for military aid to Greece and Turkey. This fund will be used to oppose the threatened spread of communism into southeastern Europe. A grant of 60 million dollars is approved for the United Nations Children's Fund which is attempting to bring relief to large numbers of needy youths throughout the world.

The organization headed by Mr. Hoffman, set up to carry out the foreign aid program, is called the Economic Cooperation Administration. Key men are now being chosen to assist Mr. Hoffman.

How Large an Air Force?

It seems likely that Congress will soon vote to strengthen the nation's armed forces, but there is disagreement on which parts of the military establishment should be made larger. Programs that have been under consideration include a selective service act to provide more servicemen immediately, a universal military training law to build up the reserves, and expansion of air power. President Truman has recommended all of these.

There seems to be a growing feeling in Congress that Air Force expansion should receive first priority. Many

lawmakers believe that we should have at least 70 combat groups containing up to 75 planes each, plus a number of special squadrons. The present Air Force has only 55 groups. Expanded air power, say the legislators, would provide much better protection than would universal military training.

It is possible, therefore, that the universal training proposal may be turned down in favor of a plan to construct more planes. Many members of Congress feel that we should not spend money for both. Selective service, on the other hand, may have a chance to become law. If the Air Force is to be greatly enlarged, a draft probably will be needed to obtain more men for it.

Advocates of universal military training, however, have not given up their fight. Even with a large Air Force, they declare, we should still have a big reserve of trained men.

That Colombian Revolt

The recent revolt in Bogota, Colombia, proved once again the uncertainty and unpredictability of our times. Until this outbreak, Colombia had an exceptionally good record for peace and order. She had been freer from dictatorships and revolutions than most of her neighbors.

Much to our later embarrassment, we called attention to Colombia's "peaceful ways" in the last issue of our paper, which reached its readers at almost exactly the same time that the revolt was taking place. Yes, our faces are still red!

In defense of what we said, though, we shall quote from a *New York Times* story on the Colombian revolt:

"Politically, Colombia has been one of the most stable countries in South America. On a continent notable for caudillos (strong men) and revolts, the Colombians take pride in saying their nation has had 'governments of lawyers, not soldiers.'"

In view of what has happened, it now appears that the Colombians will have to take pride in something else.

There is a difference of opinion con-

cerning who was to blame for the revolt. The two main political parties in that country are the Conservatives and the Liberals. A Liberal leader was shot, supposedly by a member of the Conservative Party. That started the fireworks. Colombian officials claim, however, that the Communists, for the purpose of breaking up the Pan American Conference in Bogota, actually plotted the whole affair.

Public Opinion

The value which public opinion polls may come to have in aiding statesmen to make wise decisions is pointed out by Elmo Roper and Julian Woodward in a recent article in *This Week Magazine*. The authors think that such organizations as the Gallup Poll or the public opinion survey directed by Mr. Roper himself already do a better job of keeping the government informed on what people are thinking than any other method of "feeling the public pulse." They believe that such surveys will do even better in the future.

Mr. Roper and Mr. Woodward predict that in a few years the public opinion survey may take its place in government alongside the ballot box. They say it will supplement voting by letting Congressmen know how their constituents feel on public issues at any given moment. Congressmen can then cast their vote, secure in the knowledge that they are "carrying out the will" of the people.

Soviet "Squeeze Play"

Tension continues in Berlin. The restrictions placed upon rail and highway traffic to and from the British, French, and American zones of the city by the Soviet authorities have not prevented supplies from reaching those sectors. Provisions are being flown in by plane, and some supplies are still reaching Berlin by rail without Russian interference.

At the same time, the Russians are continuing to keep a close check on traffic, and, as we go to press, they are threatening to block American and British air traffic to Berlin.

In such a "charged" atmosphere, observers fear the possibility of another incident such as the plane crash which took place about two weeks ago in the British sector. A Russian fighter and a British passenger plane, which was about to land, collided in mid-air. Both pilots and all passengers were killed. At first, the Soviet officials in Berlin were apologetic, but later blamed the British for the accident. It is feared that another incident of this type may have very serious results.

American authorities think that the purpose of Russia's tightening of restrictions is to make the position of the three western powers—the United States, Great Britain, and France—so unbearable that they will withdraw from their Berlin occupation zones. Such a "squeeze," it is thought, would increase the prestige of the Russians with the German population and at the same time allow the Soviet forces to take full control of the city. American and British officials, however, seem determined to prevent this development.

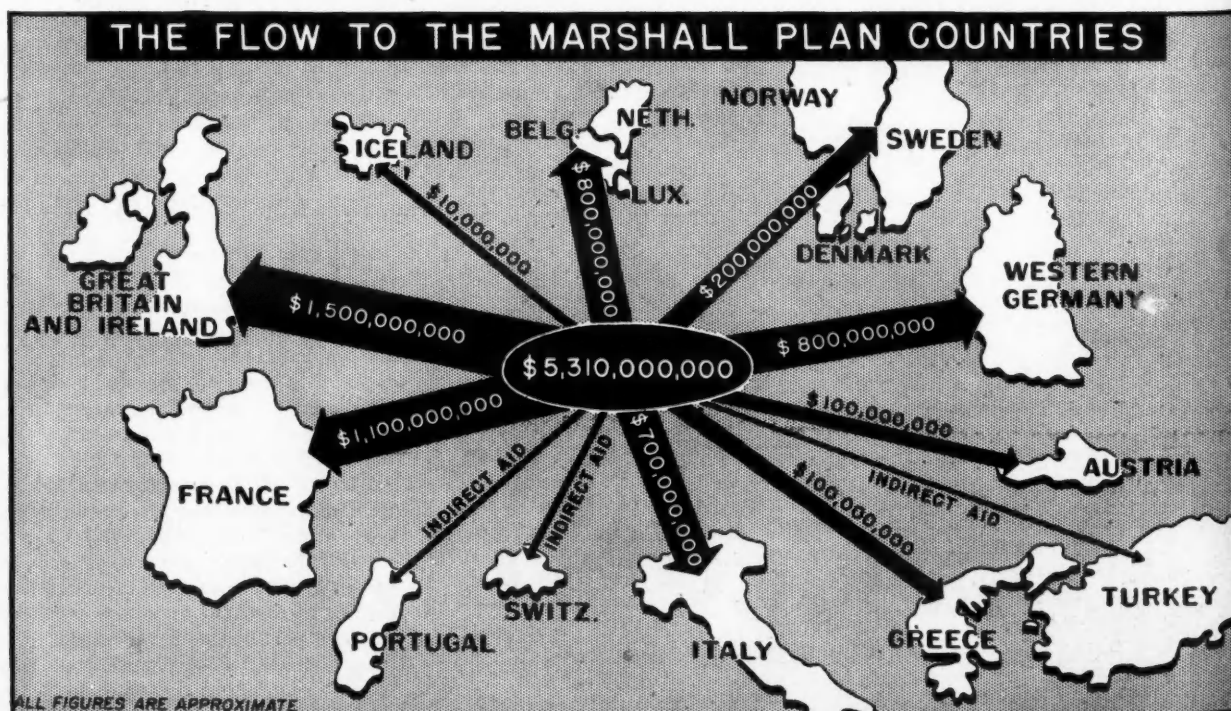
Scandinavia Next?

Our government is carefully watching developments in the Scandinavian countries. There have been recent indications that Russia may be trying to extend her influence into that corner of Europe.

Attacks on Norway in Russian newspapers are much like those made on Finland some weeks ago. Criticism of Finland was later followed by Russian demands for a "friendship pact" between the two countries. Observers feel that the charges against Norway may be the forerunner of similar demands on that nation.

Russia's attacks follow the familiar Communist line that Norway's "independence is endangered" by her cooperation in the Marshall Plan. Norwegian officials deny such a charge, and say they will resist any attempt by Russia to enter into a defensive agreement.

Sweden and Denmark, also pledged to take part in the European Recovery Program, are following the lead of Norway. Their prime ministers have



THE CHART SHOWS how funds from the United States are expected to be divided among nations to be aided by the European Recovery Program

denounced the spread of communism. However, all the Scandinavian nations are keeping a watchful eye on their powerful neighbor, the Soviet Union.

Exciting Film

"Fort Apache" is an exciting movie about the warfare between the U. S. Army cavalry and the Indians in



REO-KEITH'S, WASHINGTON, D. C. ACTION and drama are packed into "Fort Apache," a movie based on warfare in Arizona, between the Indians and the U. S. Army, 70 years ago.

the southern part of Arizona some 70 years ago. Henry Fonda, who heads the cast, is a high-ranking Army officer who was demoted after the Civil War. Sent to command a cavalry outpost in the desert country of the Southwest, he brings disaster upon the entire regiment through his stubbornness. Shirley Temple plays the part of his daughter, while John Wayne and John Agar are among the officers under his command. Victor McLaglen is outstanding as a hard-bitten top sergeant. Packed with action, the picture has an exciting sequence in which an Army wagon races across the desert with the Indians in pursuit. The climax of the movie is a battle between the regiment and the Apaches.

Finns and Russians

The defense treaty which Russia recently signed with Finland gives the Soviet Union an almost unbroken line of buffer states along her western boundary. Every country adjoining Russia in the west—with the single exception of Norway—has entered into a defense treaty with her since the war.

The treaty with Finland binds the Finns to resist any attack made across their territory against Russia by Germany or by "any state allied with Germany." The treaty does not designate any other country by name. Under certain conditions Soviet troops may enter Finland, but the Finnish army is not required to aid Russia outside of Finland.

Only in the far north where Russia and Norway have a common boundary for about 50 miles is the line of Soviet buffer states broken.

Junior Colleges

A striking development in education in recent years has been the widespread growth of junior colleges. Today there are 663 junior colleges in this country. Enrollment, totaling about 455,000, shows an increase of more than 50 per cent over last year.

Junior colleges usually present two years' academic work. Many of them

offer high school graduates the choice of either terminal or transfer programs. Terminal programs—often vocational in nature—appeal to young people who wish to get more training than they have received in high school but do not want to take a 4-year college course.

A student choosing the transfer program receives the same training he would get in a university in his freshman and sophomore years. At the completion of his junior college program, he is eligible to transfer to a university or 4-year college as a member of the junior class.

Most junior colleges charge tuition, but in some sections they have become a part of the free, public school system. This is particularly true in many parts of California.

Many educators believe that free schooling on the junior college level may become more widespread in the future. One of the recent recommendations of the President's Commission on Higher Education was that free, public education be made available to American youth through the first two years of college.

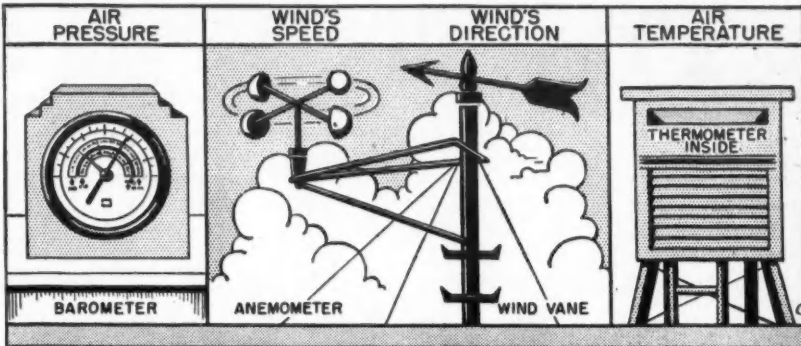
Baseball Season Opens

Today—April 19—the big league baseball season is scheduled to open with games in Washington and Boston. All 16 teams will see action tomorrow. In every big league park, fans will be watching their favorite veterans, and will also be interested in seeing any rookies who may be performing on their teams.

All teams have at least one outstanding newcomer. The "Rookie of the year," however, may prove to be some unheralded young player who comes to the fore when the competition is keenest during the summer months.

One man in baseball who will be closely watched by fans everywhere is not a player but a manager. Joe McCarthy is back in the game after more than a year's absence made necessary by ill health.

The 60-year-old McCarthy, who is directing the Boston Red Sox this season, has an unsurpassed managerial record. Nine times in the last 20 years, teams led by him have won pen-



TOOLS that the weatherman uses

DRAWING BY CRAIG

nants, and seven of his pennant-winning teams have been victors in the World's Series.

Control of Atomic Power

Shall the control of atomic energy be returned to the armed forces, or shall it remain in the hands of a civilian commission? The issue has again been raised by the increasing tenseness of the international situation. A bill has recently been introduced in Congress to give the control of atomic energy in this country to military leaders, as it was during the recent war.

Those who support the bill argue in this way: "The use of atomic power for peacetime purposes is still a long way in the future. Since at this time it is valuable only in a military way, the men who run our armed forces should have charge of mapping its further development just as they control experimentation on other new weapons."

Those who want the civilian Atomic Energy Commission to keep its present control advance this argument: "While rigid military discipline is necessary in combat, it is not good for carrying out a scientific project. Scientists need more freedom and opportunity for individual initiative than they are likely to have under military control. The development of atomic power will come about more quickly and efficiently if it is left in the hands of civilian experts."

The bill to return control of the atom to the armed forces is now in the hands of a Congressional committee.

Science News

OUR weather reports are directed by the United States Weather Bureau, a part of the Department of Commerce. Weather stations are scattered throughout the nation. Some are on mountains, others are in tall office buildings, and still others are in valleys or empty deserts.

Wherever a station is, it uses the tools shown in the drawing on this page. The barometer measures the pressure of the air and helps the weatherman judge changes that are ahead. The thermometer and the devices for determining the wind's speed and direction assist him in other ways. Then there are instruments used to find out how damp the air is and how much rain has fallen.

Every day, weather reports are telegraphed to district offices from the many individual stations.

★ ★ ★

A compound called "urushiol," the substance that makes poison ivy such a pest, has been made synthetically in a laboratory. One use for the synthetic "poison" will be in inoculating persons against the effects of the poisonous vine and related plants.

Manufacturers of varnishes which use the oil from the cashew nut shell are also interested in urushiol. The cashew oil has the same poisonous effect as does ivy, and it is hoped that skin irritations which attack workers in these factories may be avoided by this experimentation with the synthetic urushiol compound.

★ ★ ★

Submarines in our Navy are getting a "new look." Alterations include the removing of deck guns and other equipment on the topside so that the ship is more streamlined and can submerge at a greater speed. Hulls of the ships will also be streamlined by reducing the size of their superstructure. Craft already altered in this way are being tested in both the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans.

★ ★ ★

New discoveries of uranium in Burma and in the Union of South Africa lend evidence to the theory that the world's supply of this vital mineral is larger than was supposed. The mineral can be found easily by use of the "Geiger counter," an instrument that detects radioactivity. It is thought that the dumps from abandoned gold mines in South Africa will be a rich source of uranium.

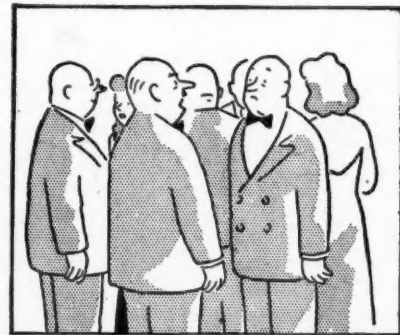
—By HAZEL LEWIS

S M I L E S

A girl said in court that she broke off her engagement because her fiance was always combing his hair in public. That naturally led to a parting.

★ ★ ★

Before condemning a writer's work because it is not original, think how much worse it might be if it were.



DAY IN SATURDAY EVENING POST "You are boring me, but that's all right. I came here expecting to be bored."

Fable: The driver tooted his horn to call somebody from the house, and waited a reasonable time before tooting again.

★ ★ ★

Respectfully suggested to the United Nations: That the antarctic continent be set aside, by world agreement, as an exclusive battleground for future wars.

★ ★ ★

Scenario writers, a film magazine explains, are always looking for new ideas. Well, now, that's fine. Maybe some day they'll find one.

★ ★ ★

It is said the average American family pays the doctor \$100 a year. This will be real news to the doctor.

★ ★ ★

It isn't necessary to fool all of the people. A majority will do.

★ ★ ★

This nation spends one-third of its mental energy in wisecracking, another third in brain-exhausting games, and nearly all the rest in arguments to show why nothing can be done.



U. S. NAVY MEDICAL CENTER at Bethesda, Maryland, on the outskirts of the nation's capital, is symbolic of the nation's fight against disease

Cancer Control Month Is Being Observed

(Concluded from page 1)

Now let us briefly take up some of the major diseases, and see what steps are being taken to prevent and cure them:

Cancer. In the United States it is surpassed only by heart trouble as a killer. In 1946 it took more than 180,000 lives. It is estimated that, of every five babies born today, one will eventually have cancer.

A wild and uncontrolled growth of body cells, the cancer crowds and destroys normal tissue. Although it strikes all ages, cancer is mainly a disease of middle-aged and older people. That is why it is causing an increasing proportion of America's deaths.

People Live Longer

"In these days of sanitary controls of one kind and another," comments the Public Affairs Committee in a recent pamphlet, "more people are living to be older. They escape death from the common infectious diseases, from tuberculosis and pneumonia—and live long enough to get cancer."

At present, a person who has this disease must be treated either with some type of radiation or by surgery. X-ray machines and radium have for a number of years been important weapons against the ailment. Experiments are in progress to determine the value, as cancer cures, of radio-active materials produced in atomic laboratories. Meanwhile, the techniques by which surgeons remove the deadly growths are being constantly improved.

In its early stages, cancer is relatively easy to stop. Unfortunately, it is often not found until after it has spread and perhaps become incurable. Much more progress needs to be made, of course, in methods of detecting the presence of the growths. However, many persons have cancers that physical check-ups would reveal.

Heart trouble. This is our country's No. 1 destroyer of life. It kills almost half a million Americans per year. Perhaps as many as 7½ million people in the United States are suffering from some form of heart trouble.

Like cancer, it takes most of its victims during middle or old age.

Therefore, as the average age of our population rises, heart trouble becomes responsible for an increasing proportion of deaths.

There are, though, some illnesses of the heart which strike young people. Heart disease resulting from rheumatic fever is one of the leading causes of death among children.

While the basic causes of many kinds of heart disease are still unknown, medical science has discovered successful methods of treatment. For example, a number of child victims of rheumatic fever have received sulfa drugs to ward off new attacks. Surgeons are finding successful ways of operating on the heart.

Compounds that keep the blood from clotting have been developed. These are used against thrombosis—the ailment in which clots block blood vessels in the heart or other parts of the body.

Heart disease usually cannot be entirely cured, but if discovered early enough it can generally be kept under control so that the victim is able to enjoy a fairly active life. Unfortunately, heart trouble resembles cancer in that a person can have it for a long time before its deadly effects are apparent.

Cerebral hemorrhage—sometimes known as apoplexy. It took almost 130,000 lives in 1945. Generally a

disease of middle and old age, apoplexy occurs when a blood vessel in the brain bursts. Scientists are experimenting with a drug—rutin—which apparently can act as a preventive of cerebral hemorrhage in many cases by strengthening the walls of small blood vessels.

Kidney ailments. Nephritis—inflammation of the kidneys—ranks high as a cause of death in the United States. Although it strikes all ages, it is more commonly found among elderly people. It killed more than 80,000 Americans in 1946. This disease is another which often escapes early detection and prompt treatment.

Pneumonia. Although still an important cause of death, this illness is being brought under control. For every 100,000 people in the United States, about 175 died of pneumonia in 1900, and fewer than 45 out of 100,000 died of it in 1945. Penicillin is now being used to cure this respiratory disease.

Meanwhile, scientists are experimenting with vaccines which, they hope, will prevent pneumonia's occurrence. The present pneumonia death rate of about 55,000 per year can, they believe, be considerably reduced.

Tuberculosis. In 1900 this disease was, in our country, the top-ranking killer of all. Of every 100,000 Americans, almost 200 per year were at that time dying of tuberculosis. By 1945, the death rate from this lung ailment, per 100,000 people, had been cut down to about 40.

In spite of progress made against it, tuberculosis is still the leading cause of death for people between the ages of 15 and 44. As is true of a number of other ailments, the main problem in fighting tuberculosis is to find the people who have it and are spreading it among others.

In Washington, D. C., during the past several months, there has been a drive to locate unsuspected cases of this illness. The campaign is being carried on by local agencies in cooperation with the United States Public Health Service. Already more than 300,000 adult residents of the nation's capital have been given free X-ray pictures of their lungs.

Diabetes. In 1946 it took almost 35,000 American lives, and it is estimated that there are a million or more diabetics in the United States. Diabetes gives little warning during its early stages, but doctors can generally find it in routine physical check-ups.

This ailment—inability of the body to handle sugars properly—strikes all ages. Older persons are more likely to get it, but in younger people it is generally more severe.

Exercise and rigid dieting have long been used to check the development of diabetes. Nevertheless, until the early 1920's, it was a hopelessly fatal disease. At that time doctors learned to give diabetic patients insulin, a substance which normally the body manufactures for its own use. This treatment has greatly reduced the danger of diabetes.

Your Vocabulary

In each of the sentences below match the italicized word with the following word or phrase whose meaning is most nearly the same. Correct answers are to be found on page 8, column 4.

- Everyone thought that the announcement might *precipitate* (prĕ-sĭp'ĭ-tate) the conflict. (a) settle satisfactorily (b) cause to happen suddenly (c) prevent from happening.
- The reasons for his action were *manifold* (man'fōld). (a) numerous and varied (b) economic and financial (c) personal and selfish (d) mature and well thought out.
- Did you think his explanation *plausible* (plaw'zĭ-bl)? (a) reasonable (b) untrue (c) clever.
- The pianist's *repertoire* (rĕp'er'twar) bored the audience. (a) list of selections (b) style of playing (c) repetitious mannerisms.
- The company needed a person skilled in *topography* (tō-pŏg'rā-fĭ). (a) bookkeeping (b) map-making (c) first aid (d) translating.
- The situation called for unusual *decorum* (dĕ-kō'rūm). (a) dignity and formality (b) justice and fair play (c) quick and positive action.



PLASTIC LUNG aids in the treatment of infantile paralysis victims

Readers Say—

When President Truman announced his civil rights program, undoubtedly he realized the political harm it would do him. Overlooking his personal loss, he is working for all that a true democracy represents—tolerance and understanding among every racial and religious group.

POLLY DOYLE,
Bar Harbor, Maine.

★ ★ ★

In my opinion, the South has a very valid argument in its opposition to the civil rights program advanced by the President. The proposed legislation would upset the social structure in the South, would be a violation of our Constitution, and would be generally unwise. Progress is being made toward better race relations. Federal civil rights laws would only show that tolerance cannot be legislated.

FRANCIS TATNALL,
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

★ ★ ★

An article in a fall issue of THE AMERICAN OBSERVER put the Burmese people in a very poor light. It spoke of their dressing as their ancestors did. I think this custom is to their credit, especially when they are among the most beautifully dressed people in the world. They do not wear dull shirts, but dress in exquisite materials of silk, linen and lace. The most important fact is that the Burmese are happy with their life and would not want to change to one which we Americans feel they should have. I was born in Burma and spent most of my childhood there. I hope soon to return as a missionary.

BETTY M. STOCKMAN,
New London, Connecticut.

(Editor's Note: THE AMERICAN OBSERVER did not intend any slur upon the Burmese people to be read into its article on the former British colony. It merely stated that the people have not adopted modern customs, and that they are good-natured and cheerful.)

★ ★ ★

After discussing the article "Which Way to Peace?" our class took a vote on the four views presented. Twenty-two out of 28 persons in the class thought our chances for peace would be best under the fourth possibility—that of being prepared to use military force, if necessary, to check Russian aggression.

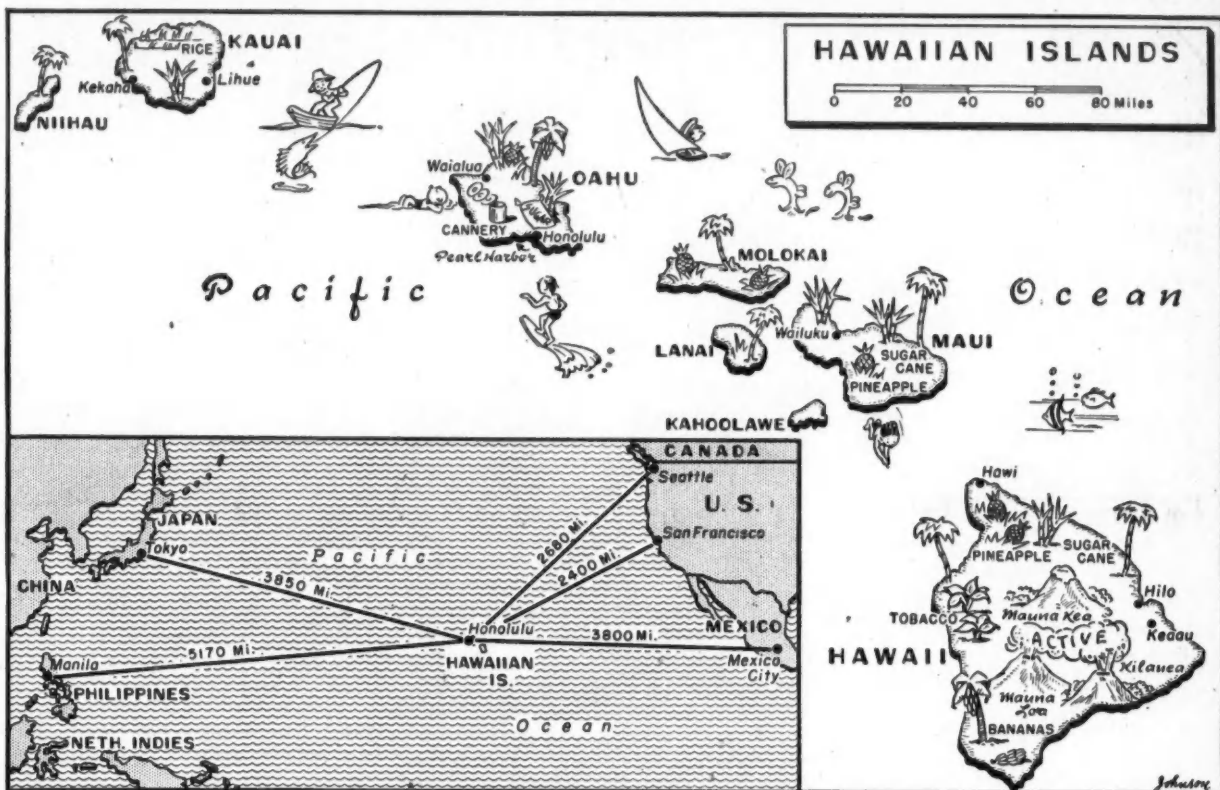
SALLY FRANKS,
Michigan City, Indiana.

★ ★ ★

We wish to present the unanimous opinion of our class concerning the present threat of war with Russia. We believe the international situation requires that decisions by high officials should not be based on political motives. We do not believe that our "get tough" policy, without any armed might behind it, is fooling anyone, particularly Russia.

We should mobilize our military forces so that we can back any definite stand we take with Russia. We think these steps are backed by most Americans.

NORMAN STEANSON, JR.,
and JOHN R. HULL,
Troy, Kansas.



Hawaii Hopes Its Statehood Is Near

Islanders Have Long Been Loyal Citizens of the U. S.

STRONG efforts are being made in Congress to bring Hawaii into the Union as the 49th state—the first new one to be admitted since 1912. The United States House of Representatives has already approved a bill that would allow the island people to adopt a state constitution, and a Senate committee is considering the proposal.

At present, Hawaii is known as a territory. Its people elect their own legislature and have a great deal of self-government. Their Governor, though, is appointed by the President of the United States. They do not have delegates who can vote in Congress, and they cannot vote in presidential elections. Most of the people of Hawaii want their island chain to become a state so that they can take part in the national government.

Hawaii was once an independent kingdom. Ships from the United States began stopping there shortly after the American Revolution. Missionaries from New England arrived on the islands about 1820. During the 1800's American businessmen invested

heavily in Hawaii, particularly in sugar plantations.

Eventually Queen Liliuokalani tried to take measures against American interests. As a result of her policies, there was a revolution and Liliuokalani was overthrown. In 1898 Hawaii became a possession of the United States. Its people were made citizens of this country two years later.

Hawaii today is busy and progressive, a crossroads for Pacific commerce and a key outpost of American military power. The airplane is becoming a favorite means of transportation from one island to another.

The mountainous, volcanic islands are located about 2,400 miles southwest of San Francisco. They form a chain about 400 miles long. As a group they contain a little more land area than Connecticut and Rhode Island do together. There are eight major islands and a number of small ones. The largest in the group is, like the entire chain, named Hawaii. The most thickly populated one, however, is Oahu. It contains the capital city,

Honolulu, and the great Pearl Harbor naval base.

From a commercial standpoint, the islands are important chiefly as producers of sugar and pineapples. Most Hawaiian industries are devoted to the processing of these and other tropical farm crops. The companies that own the vast sugar cane and pineapple plantations greatly influence the economic life of Hawaii.

Climate and scenery make Hawaii particularly famous as a tourist resort. Although these islands are in the tropics, the temperature seldom gets uncomfortably warm. Except in the mountains it is never cold.

In Hawaii are two of the world's greatest active volcanoes—Mauna Loa and Kilauea. Near them is snow-capped Mauna Kea, a 13,800-foot extinct volcano. In addition to the peaks and craters, there are spectacular crags and ravines, dense tropical forests, beautiful beaches, and the fertile croplands.

The population—about 500,000—is a racial mixture. Approximately a third of the people are former residents of the American mainland or their descendants; another third are of Japanese ancestry; and the rest include Chinese, Filipinos, and members of the original Hawaiian native race. These groups are welded together by Christianity, the English language, and first-rate schools. During World War II, all the islanders showed their loyalty to the United States.

The people of Hawaii are noted for their friendliness and hospitality. The elaborate welcomes and farewells—with music and garlands of flowers—extended to visitors at Honolulu's harbor have become traditional. Hawaii's music is world famous.

It is sometimes argued that Hawaii should not become a state because it is so far from the mainland of our country. Islanders reply that Hawaii is only 10 hours by air from the mainland of the United States.

—By THOMAS K. MYER.

Comparison of U. S. and Russian Military Power

(Concluded from page 3)

best and most modern weapons of war.

5. Build up a powerful air force without neglecting other services.

6. While maintaining terrific striking power for use if we should be attacked, we should not go to extremes and spend so much money on armaments that we would be bankrupt.

7. Maintain civilian control of the government. We should not become a "garrison state," controlled by the military. We should remember the importance of preserving the democracy for which we are supposed to fight and should see to it that the Bill of Rights is preserved, and that the liberties of the people are guarded.

After setting forth this program, Mr. Baldwin issues a stirring chal-

lenge to the people of this country:

"The United States is master of its fate and architect of the future. We hold the power, if we but have the heart, to win the struggle of tomorrow. Upon us, more than upon any other nation of our times, depend the history of the next century and the fate or fortune of millions of the world's peoples. To us has been granted greatness, and the power and the glory.

"Favored by nature, bulwarked by the oceans, these United States have enjoyed a century and a half of expansion, progress, prosperity and freedom unparalleled in the record of man. Today, the veil of distance and the mist of space have been sundered by

the plane; no longer do we dwell upon the fringes of history; the little colony on the edge of a wilderness that our forefathers dedicated to liberty has now become the center of the stage. We need the world, and the world certainly needs us. . . .

"To us has been passed the torch of Western civilization, the political birthright of Magna Charta, the cultural traditions of Greece and Rome and France and England, of Cervantes and Shakespeare, of Goethe and Milton. The lands of Europe from which our settlers came are old and weary, bowed and desolate; to us has been passed the torch. We may carry it high, or it may be dashed into the dust."

Careers for Tomorrow - - Physiotherapy

CASUALTIES of two World Wars have revived interest in a vocation that was once practiced by the ancient Greeks—the vocation of physical therapy. A physical therapist is a person who treats certain ailments and disabilities by means of heat, massage, electricity, light, water and exercise. The therapist, like a nurse, works only under a doctor's orders, and never himself prescribes treatment for a patient.

Before World War I, this occupation as known today did not exist. The need for rehabilitative work with wounded soldiers during and after that conflict, however, caused the medical profession, and the public, to take a new interest in therapy.

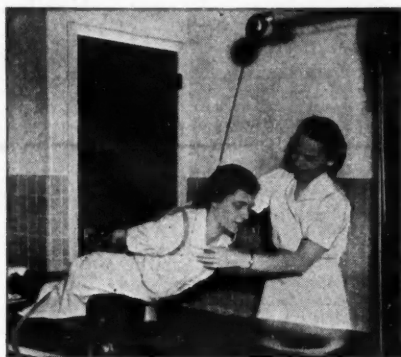
Today the profession is well established and is doing outstanding work. Students going into it, though, should be certain to see that they attend an accredited school and that they get acceptable training. If they fail to do this, they may not be able to work in good hospitals and with reputable doctors.

A list of accredited schools giving courses in physical therapy, and other information, can be secured from the American Physiotherapy Association, 1790 Broadway, New York 19, New York.

Physical therapists work with patients who have lost the use of muscles through accident or illness. The aim of the profession is to restore the use of the damaged muscle and to make it possible for the disabled person to return to normal life. At present, per-

haps the most spectacular work being done by therapists is that with war casualties and paralysis victims.

To be successful in this work, a person must be patient and cheerful, and he must have good health. He must be sympathetic and tactful in his relations with people. An interest in medicine and medical problems is also essential.



DEMONSTRATING physical therapy equipment in the new hospital of George Washington University, Washington, D. C.

Schools that give special training in physical therapy accept applicants with one of three types of preliminary training. An applicant should be a graduate of an approved school of nursing, a graduate of a school of physical education, or he should have had three years of college with special emphasis on biology, chemistry, and other sciences.

The physical therapy training itself includes the study of physics, anatomy, physiology and psychology, plus special

work in the methods of treatment. The course covers from one to four years.

A high school student looking forward to this career should take a college preparatory course with emphasis on science.

Physical therapists work in such places as hospitals, welfare departments, or in schools for crippled children. They may also be employed by visiting nurses' associations, or they may work on private cases or for the government.

Outside the federal government, there is no standardized salary scale for this profession. Positions with the government pay from \$2,600 to about \$7,000 a year. Salaries for persons working in hospitals and other institutions vary according to the locality, and range from \$175 to \$300 a month. As in all professions, the highest salaries are paid to experienced workers, usually those in administrative positions.

Young persons, both men and women, who are genuinely interested in working with people, and who would take pleasure in the often difficult job of helping disabled individuals return to useful lives, can perhaps find no more satisfying career than this. There are, though, disadvantages that should be faced. The training required is hard, and there is nervous strain in the work. Careful self-analysis will help a student determine whether these hardships outweigh the advantages.

—By CARRINGTON SHIELDS.

Study Guide

Disease

1. How much has American life expectancy increased since 1930?
2. Give two important ways in which individuals can help in the fight against disease.
3. What disease is America's top-ranking killer?
4. Why have cancer and heart trouble been causing an increasing proportion of the nation's deaths in recent years?
5. Tell of the extent to which pneumonia is being brought under control.
6. List two of the main causes of death among young people.
7. What medical development of the early 1920's was of great benefit to diabetics?
8. What are the methods used in treating cancer?
9. Does the public support the fight against heart disease and cancer as well as it does that against infantile paralysis?

Spain

1. Give some reasons why many countries have felt unfriendly toward Spain in recent years.
2. What European nation has lately shown increased willingness to cooperate with Spain?
3. Give arguments in favor of helping Spain under the European Recovery Program.
4. What can be said in opposition to our helping Franco's government?
5. How does the European Recovery Program, as finally adopted by Congress, deal with the matter of Spanish aid?
6. In what line of work are most of the Spanish people engaged?
7. Which Western Hemisphere country is giving a great deal of economic aid to Spain?

Discussion

1. In your opinion, should the United States start giving economic help to Franco's government? Why or why not?
2. Do you think Spain should be admitted to the United Nations? Give reasons for your answer.

Miscellaneous

1. Who is head of the new agency that will supervise the European Recovery Program?
2. What issue has been raised concerning the control of the United States atomic energy projects?
3. Briefly describe the defense treaty signed by Finland and the Soviet Union.
4. What reason is there to believe that Russia may soon try to bring Sweden and Norway into a military union with her?
5. Explain what is meant by the statement that Russia is trying to make a "squeeze play" in Berlin.
6. Does Hanson Baldwin, *New York Times* military writer, think that Russia or the United States could launch knock-out air and atomic-bomb attacks against each other at the present time?

Outside Reading

"I Have a Scar on My Heart," by W. A. P. John, *Saturday Evening Post*, February 7, 1948.

The following Public Affairs Pamphlets: No. 38 (Revised), 1947, "Facing the Facts About Cancer"; No. 137, 1948, "Know Your Heart"; and No. 138, 1948, "Good News About Diabetes." Available for 20 cents each from Public Affairs Committee, Inc., 22 East 38th Street, New York 16, New York.

Pronunciations

Balearic—bā'le-ā'rik
 Bilbao—bil-bah'ō
 Cartagena—kahr'tah-jē'nah
 Granada—grah-nah'dah
 Liliuokalani—lē'le-ōō-ō-kah-lah'nē
 Oahu—ō-ah'hōō

Answers to Vocabulary Test

1. (b) cause to happen suddenly;
2. (a) numerous and varied; 3. (a) reasonable; 4. (a) list of selections;
5. (b) map-making; 6. (a) dignity and formality.

American Presidents - - Abraham Lincoln

ABRAM LINCOLN was born on a Kentucky farm in 1809. His family moved to Indiana when he was seven, and several years later followed the frontier westward to central Illinois.

Of his earliest years, not much is known. "A ne'er-do-well father, destined to drift from one badly tilled patch of land to another, a gentle mother, who is said to have known refinements foreign to the cheerless Kentucky cabin, a sparsely settled community of 'poor whites,' two brief snatches of ABC schooling under traveling masters, stinted living, a few chores, still fewer pastimes, and all is said," declares one of the Civil War President's biographers.

The young Lincoln had but few books; a Bible, "Pilgrim's Progress," "Robinson Crusoe," and later the works of Shakespeare. But he read them tirelessly after his long hours in the fields, and more important, he thought about what he had read.

He studied law, soon became locally successful, and moved to Springfield. Almost immediately he was in politics, failed of election to the state legislature when he was 23, but was successful two years later and held the office until he was 33.

He was elected to Congress in 1846 at the age of 35, but failed to win a second term. He was practically out of politics for the next eight years, and during that time became one of the leading lawyers in Illinois.

He became the candidate of the newly formed Republican party for the United States senatorship in 1858,

running against the popular and eloquent Stephen A. Douglas. The two candidates engaged in a number of debates in which Lincoln demonstrated his powers of logic and his skill as a campaigner. Douglas was elected, but Lincoln became a national figure, and, in 1860, was nominated for the Presidency and elected.

Never before or since has the Presidency been a harder assignment than it was in 1861. When Abraham Lincoln entered the White House the nation was falling apart. Several states had already seceded and others were threatening to do so.

Amidst the chaos and confusion Lincoln had a single purpose—to preserve the Union. But how to do this was the question. If he immediately used force to bring the seceded states back, there was danger that the border

states, which he hoped to save, would be enraged and would break away. If, on the other hand, he remained inactive the whole structure of the Union might be destroyed.

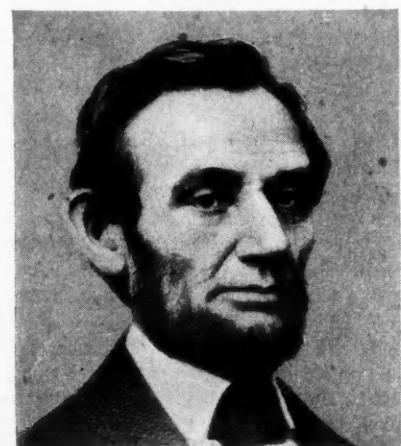
Under the circumstances the President exhibited one of the characteristics that made him great. He was firm and yet patient. He waited until the South first used force—until South Carolina's forces fired on Fort Sumter. After that he felt justified in mobilizing the North for military action.

How expertly Lincoln did his work as commander-in-chief is still a matter of dispute, but his good sense, his fairness, the breadth of his sympathies, his singleness of purpose, helped mightily in maintaining morale and in building for victory.

As the war drew to an end, Lincoln's purpose was to treat the South fairly, justly, generously; to bring it back into the Union, to remove the scars of war and to restore friendship and loyalty to a common country.

Unfortunately the great war President was assassinated a few days after Lee surrendered. Harsh and ungenerous terms were forced upon the South and bad feeling between the sections remained for many years.

What would have happened if Lincoln had lived will always be a matter of speculation, but there is at least a chance that a majority of the people of the North would have supported him. In that case he could have forced Congress to adopt the healing reconstruction measures which he advocated.



ABRAHAM LINCOLN, 16th President